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Osgoode Digital Commons: Digital Repository Success Stories

F. Tim Knight

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Osgoode Digital Commons Digital Repository Success Stories

Prepared by F. Tim Knight
CALL/ACBD Webinar, April 19, 2018



Hello everyone and thank you for joining us for this CALL webinar about digital repositories. And thanks to Yemisi Dina, Sooin Kim and the CALL Webinar Sub-Committee members for organizing this webinar and inviting me to participate.



Osgoode Digital Commons

- Deciding on a platform
- Tour of Osgoode Digital Commons
- Metrics
- Some futures challenges
- Contributors

Today I will be talking about Osgoode Digital Commons. I will touch on how we decided on this platform, give a tour of the resources we've collected, talk a little about metrics, some of our future challenges and thank our contributors and the many student assistants who have helped us develop and maintain this digital repository.

So let's get started ...

Osgoode Digital Commons



The then Chief Law Librarian Louis Mirando and I had been talking for some time about the possibility for the law library to develop an institutional repository for the Osgoode Hall Law School. The Law School had been putting some effort into creating a profile on SSRN and were keen to collect the resulting download counts for the papers they'd posted.

We felt we could probably improve on this initiative and provide better coverage of Osgoode scholarship especially if we implemented a platform that we could control locally. In early 2012 this idea began to take shape. I was on sabbatical at the time so it was up to Louis to do the initial work of educating and informing Osgoode faculty about the merits of this project and evaluating our options. As part of this process he prepared a short report entitled, "Osgoode Institutional Repository on Digital Commons."



Osgoode Digital Commons

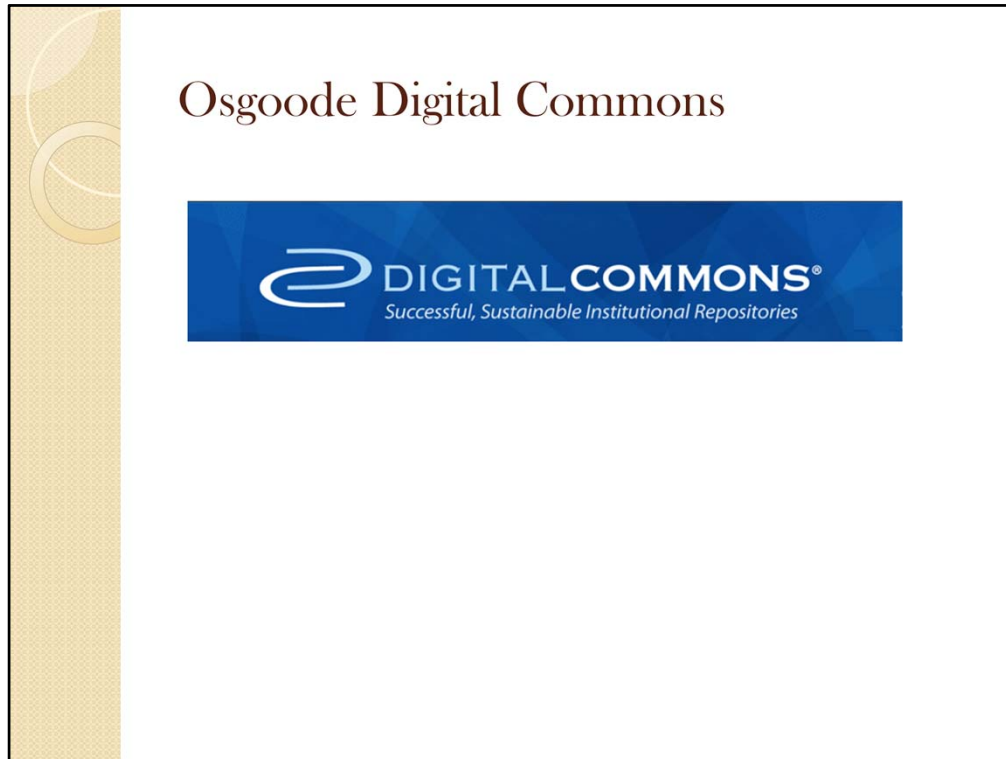
Objectives:

- to provide open access to institutional research through self-archiving;
- to create global visibility for the institution's scholarly research;
- to collect and provide access to content in a single, easily accessible location;
- to store and preserve other institutional digital assets, including unpublished or otherwise easily lost literature ("grey" literature and other ephemeral literature such as technical reports).

In this report four main objectives for an institutional repository were identified:

- to provide open access to institutional research through self-archiving;
- to create global visibility for an institution's scholarly research;
- to collect content in a single, easily accessible location;
- to store and preserve other institutional digital assets, including unpublished or otherwise easily lost literature, for example "grey" literature and other ephemeral literature such as technical reports.

With these goals in mind platform options were considered.



After careful consideration bepress's Digital Commons was selected. There were a number of reasons behind this decision.

First of all we loved the way it looked.



The layout was clean, well thought out, and easily brandable so we could create a presence that expressed Osgoode's look and feel. We also didn't have the necessary resources in-house to run and maintain an open source repository platform like the popular DSpace, ...

Osgoode Digital Commons



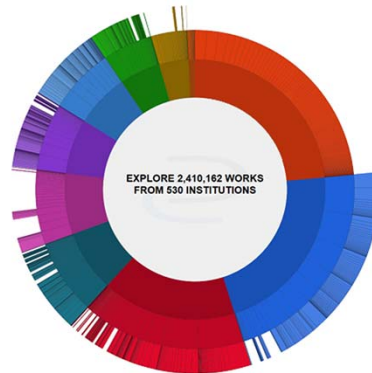
<https://flic.kr/p/qFPVMf>

... so we needed a dedicated technical support staff who would look after the nuts and bolts of keeping our content safe and secure. Bepress provides us with all of that including our own consultant. And they're customer support and encouragement has always been an amazing part of the Digital Commons experience.



Another attractive feature for us was the built in publishing platform which enabled us to facilitate the work of our local journals like the Osgoode Hall Law Journal, considered to be one of Canada's premier peer-reviewed law journals.

Osgoode Digital Commons



<https://network.bepress.com/>

And another big draw was, and is, the “Commons” part of Digital Commons. There are currently over 500 institutions participating in the “Commons” and all of these are connected together into a single research network.

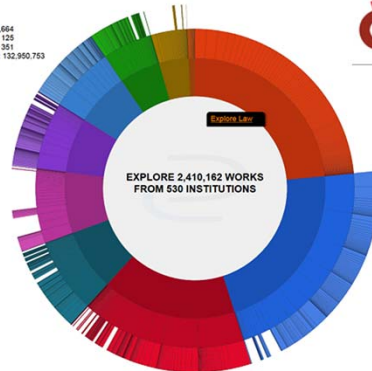
This illustration shows all of the available disciplines that are available. This novel circular graphic is an interactive, colour-coded interface that allows users to click and visit specific disciplines they’re interested in exploring.

Osgoode Digital Commons

 **DIGITAL COMMONS®**
Successful, Sustainable Institutional Repositories

Law
Works: 353,884
Disciplines: 125
Institutions: 351
Downloads: 132,360,753

 Digital Commons Network™
Law Commons™



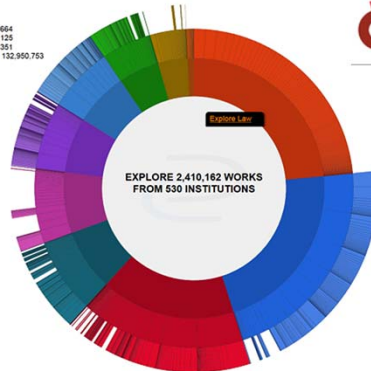
<https://network.bepress.com/>

And, not surprisingly, we were especially interested in the “Law Commons” network which is shown here in the orange section at the top right part of this graphic.

Osgoode Digital Commons



Law
Works: 353,884
Disciplines: 125
Institutions: 351
Downloads: 132,350,753



Included in
[Environmental Law Commons](#)

<https://network.bepress.com/>

Access to each of the individual commons are also included as links from the papers archived in Digital Commons, for example the “Environmental Law Commons” shown here. There are currently over 350 institutions participating in the Law Commons with over 142 million full-text downloads worldwide.

And that’s another important feature which we’ll look at a little later in the presentation: research metrics.

But let’s take a closer look at what’s available in this digital repository for the Osgoode Hall Law School ...



This is the welcome screen for Osgoode Digital Commons. Fueled by the objectives mentioned earlier we capture, preserve and make available to the global public, the intellectual output of the Law School. This includes faculty research, scholarship and publications; Osgoode journals and the activities of Osgoode research centres; selected news items about Osgoode; archival photographs and videos reflecting the life of the school; and digital initiatives curated by the Osgoode Hall Law School Library.

I'll take us through a quick tour of the individual collections to give you an overview of what we have available.



Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
- Journals
- Faculty Research Profiles
- Law Library
- News, History and Archives
- Research Centres & Programs
- Theses and Dissertations
- Videos and Webinars
- Image Galleries

From the welcome page we link into these nine main collections or “communities”: Faculty Scholarship; Journals; Faculty Research Profiles; Law Library; News, History and Archives; Research Centres & Programs; Theses and Dissertations; Videos and Webinars; and our Image Galleries.



Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
- Journals
- Faculty Research Profiles
- Law Library
- News, History and Archives
- Research Centres & Programs
- Theses and Dissertations
- Videos and Webinars
- Image Galleries
- Articles & Book Chapters
- Books
- Commissioned Reports, Studies and Public Policy Documents
- News, Editorials, and Commentaries
- Research Papers, Working Papers, Conference Papers

The Faculty Scholarship collection includes the following sub-collections: Articles & Book Chapters; faculty Books; Commissioned Reports, Studies and Public Policy Documents; News, Editorials, and Commentaries; and Research Papers, Working Papers, and Conference Papers.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
- Journals
- Faculty Research Profiles
- Law Library
- News, History and Archives
- Research Centres & Programs
- Theses and Dissertations
- Videos and Webinars
- Image Galleries
- Articles & Book Chapters
- Books
- Commissioned Reports, Studies and Public Policy Documents
- News, Editorials, and Commentaries
- Research Papers, Working Papers, Conference Papers

We collect and archive scholarly articles or book chapters that have been written by Osgoode faculty.



Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

Towards a Pedagogy of Diversity in Legal Education

[Faisal Bhabha, Osgoode Hall Law School of York University](#) [Follow](#)

Keywords
Law--Study and teaching; Discrimination in higher education; Law schools; Law students; Canada

Document Type
Article

Abstract
There is resounding consensus that diversity in legal education is a priority. Yet, North American law schools continue to be criticized for failing to reflect the diversity of the society that they are training lawyers to serve. This article is a project of conceptual reorientation against a backdrop of critical scholarship and empirical evidence. Parts I and II examine the past twenty years of diversity promotion in legal education, concluding that, while several advances have been made, especially in increasing numerical representation of diverse groups in law schools, the promise of meaningful diversity remains unfulfilled. Part III suggests that reforms in legal education, though well-intentioned, have continued to focus on the production of a model of professional identity that is out of reach and out of touch for many minority students. In Parts IV and V, the author outlines a program for transforming the norm of lawyering taught in law school. Grounded in a normative framework of access to justice and equality, the author argues that experiential/clinical learning practices offer a useful method to achieve a more engaged pedagogical commitment to diversity in legal education.

French Abstract
Personne ne réfute que la diversité devrait constituer une priorité dans la formation juridique. Pourtant, les écoles de droit d'Amérique du Nord continuent d'être critiquées

[Download](#)

 336 Downloads
Since May 11, 2015

 Included in
[Legal Education Commons](#)

SHARE

      0

Here's an example of a metadata page for an article by Professor Faisal Bhabha. We include an English and French abstract when they are available. Some other features here are: the link to full-text; the number of downloads since the paper was added to the repository; and the link to the associated "Law Commons" in this case the "Legal Education Commons." There are connections to the usual social media platforms and if you were interested in tracking Professor Bhabha's scholarship there is a 'Follow' button you can click to subscribe to his feed.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
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- Books
- Commissioned Reports, Consulting & Public Policy
- Theses and Dissertations
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For each scholarly item posted on Osgoode Digital commons we ensure that we have acquired the necessary copyright permission from the publisher. Once we have that permission we provide a Creative Commons 4.0 license for these resources.

For the few publishers who are not keen on giving us this permission we try to get a pre-print copy and failing that provide a metadata only record so that we can maintain a comprehensive record of Osgoode scholarship.



Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

Is Killing People Right? : More Great Cases that Shaped the Legal World

[Allan C. Hutchinson](#) *Osgoode Hall Law School of York University* [Follow](#)

Available in the Osgoode Hall Law School Library

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[t](#)
[p](#)

[e](#)
[+](#)
0

Description

'Great cases' are those judicial decisions around which the common law pivots. In a sequel to the instant classic *Eating People Wrong?*, this book presents eight new great cases from the United Kingdom, the United States and Australia. Written in a highly accessible yet rigorous style, it explores the social circumstances, institutions (lawyers, judges and courts) and ordinary people whose stories shaped the law. Across the courts' diverse and uncoordinated attempts to adapt to changing conditions and shifting demands, it shows the law as the living, breathing and down-the-street experience it really is. Including seminal cases in end of life, abortion and equal rights, this is an ideal introduction for students to legal history and jurisprudence.

ISBN
9781107123861

Publication Date
2016

Publisher
Cambridge University Press

Because many law books are still published in print only, and because there is generally more at stake for book publishers regarding the copyright of a whole book, our references to books will usually be a metadata only record.

For example, here's Professor Allan Hutchinson's book, "Is Killing People Right?: More Great Cases that Shaped the Legal World" published by Cambridge in 2016.

We've enhanced these records by providing links out to the publisher's website as well as to the library catalogue. We will have print copies available in the library and an ebook copy may also be available although restricted to York and Osgoode community members.

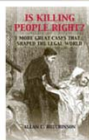
Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections



Is Killing People Right? : More Great Cases that Shaped the Legal World

[Allan C. Hutchinson](#) [Osgoode Hall Law School of York University](#)

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Is killing people right? : more great cases that shaped the legal world /

Allan C. Hutchinson, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University.

New York NY : Cambridge University Press, 2016.

EBook, Book, Online

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[Options](#) [Marked](#)

[Details](#) [Comments](#) [Staff View](#)

Holdings

Online Access

[Click to access this resource](#)

Osgoode Hall Law School Library

| Location | Call Number | Status | Holds | Material |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|----------|
| Osgoode Display | K 370 H882 2016 | Available | | LAW-BOOK |

Publication Date

2016

Publisher

Cambridge University Press

on law pivots. In a
presents eight new great
Written in a highly
s, institutions (lawyers,
e law. Across the courts'
ons and shifting
street experience it
al rights, this is an ideal

In this case we have both paper and an ebook accessible version of Professor Hutchinson's book.



Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
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- Law Library
- News, History and Archives
- Research Centres & Programs
- Theses and Dissertations
- Videos and Webinars
- Image Galleries
- Articles & Book Chapters
- Books
- Commissioned Reports, Studies and Public Policy Documents
- News, Editorials, and Commentaries
- Research Papers, Working Papers, Conference Papers

We have a good collection of commissioned reports, studies and policy documents written by Osgoode faculty dating back to 1974. Copyright for these resources are usually held by the author so it's a somewhat easier process to acquire and archive these materials.



Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

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For the news related writings written by Osgoode faculty we use Harvard University's Perma.cc service to capture and then archive an image of the online version of the editorial or commentary.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

This is a Perma.cc record

Captured February 8, 2017 3:52 pm Looks wrong? [See the Screenshot View](#)

[What is Perma.cc?](#)

[Show record details](#)

[View the live page](#) >

FINANCIAL POST

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How Canada could actually become a world leader in pension innovation

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Google+](#) [Email](#)

Keith Ambachtsheer and Ed Waitzer, Special to Financial Post
Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2017

The federal government's introduction of Bill C-27, legislation to facilitate the offering of target-benefit (TB) pension plans, has reignited the tiresome debate over defined-benefit (DB) versus defined-contribution (DC) and which is the better design for Canadian workplace pension plans. Countries that lead in pension innovation (such as Australia and the Netherlands) have moved on, and are now debating how TB plans should be



Here's an example of a Perma.cc record. Perma.cc is a free service that Harvard developed as a way to reduce the so-called "link rot" of citations in scholarly and legal works. Perma.cc captures a snapshot of the entire webpage and provides a permanent link to the original online document.



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- Books
- Commissioned Reports, Studies and Public Policy Documents
- News, Editorials, and Commentaries
- Research Papers, Working Papers, Conference Papers

The research papers collection consists primarily of the papers from the SSRN Osgoode Legal Studies Research Paper Series.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
- Journals



[Osgoode Hall Law Journal](#)



[The Supreme Court Law Review:
Osgoode's Annual Constitutional Cases Conference](#)



[Journal of Law and Social Policy](#)



[The Transnational Human Rights Review](#)



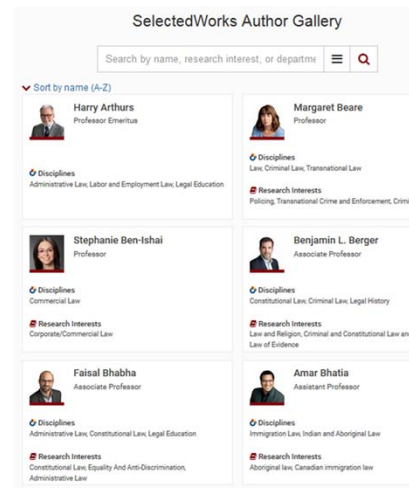
[Osgoode Hall Review of Law and Policy](#)

Osgoode Digital Commons hosts 4 locally produced journals as well as the Osgoode Annual Constitutional Cases Conference portion of the Supreme Court Law Review.

Online traffic to these journals, and especially traffic to the Osgoode Hall Law Journal, accounts for about 60% of the total traffic that comes into Osgoode Digital Commons.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
- Journals
- **Faculty Research Profiles**
- Law Library
- News, History and Archives
- Research Centres & Programs
- Theses and Dissertations
- Videos and Webinars
- Image Galleries



The Faculty Research Profiles is a faculty directory off sorts and links to the SelectedWorks page for each Osgoode faculty member. SelectedWorks is a separate add-on service that bepress provides. It essentially reorganizes the information found in Digital Commons shifting the emphasis from the institution to the scholarly works of the individual faculty member.

The screenshot shows the Osgoode Digital Commons interface. At the top, the title "Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections" is displayed in a large, dark serif font. Below the title is a navigation bar with the Osgoode and York University logos on the left and a user profile icon for "Kent McNeil" on the right. A secondary navigation bar contains links for "Osgoode Hall Law School of York University", "Osgoode Digital Commons Gallery", and "Expert Gallery".

A green status bar indicates the user is logged in as "Kent McNeil (kmcneil@osgoode.yorku.ca)" with a "Back to your account" link. Below this is a profile section for "Kent McNeil", identified as a "Professor". It includes a headshot, a "Follow" button, and a "Contact" button. The bio text states: "Professor Kent McNeil teaches Property Law, First Nations and the Law, and Trusts. He has been a faculty member at Osgoode Hall Law School since 1987, and was formerly the Research Director of the University of Saskatchewan Native Law Centre. In 2006, he was awarded a prestigious Killam Fellowship to pursue research on the legality of European assertions of sovereignty in North America." A link to "read more" is provided.

Below the bio, there are tabs for "Works" and "About". The "Works" tab is active, showing a search bar with the text "Search works of Kent McNeil" and a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar, a section titled "Books (3)" lists a work: "Indigenous Peoples and the Law: Comparative and Critical Perspectives" by Benjamin J. Richardson, Shin Imai, and Kent McNeil, published in 2009. A brief description follows: "Indigenous Peoples and the Law provides an historical, comparative and contextual analysis of various legal and policy issues affecting Indigenous peoples. It focuses on the common law jurisdictions of Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the ...".

Here is the beginning of Professor Kent McNeil's SelectedWorks page. All of his archived scholarship in Digital Commons is represented here along with his biographical information, CV, research interests and particular expertise.



Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
- Journals
- Faculty Research Profiles
- **Law Library**
- News, History and Archives
- Research Centres & Programs
- Theses and Dissertations
- Videos and Webinars
- Image Galleries
- Digital Texts
- Law Reports & Digests
- Librarian Publications & Presentations
- Ontario Law Reform Commission
- Special Exhibits
- Statutes

In the Law Library collection some of the digital initiatives that the Osgoode Library has so far undertaken will be found.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

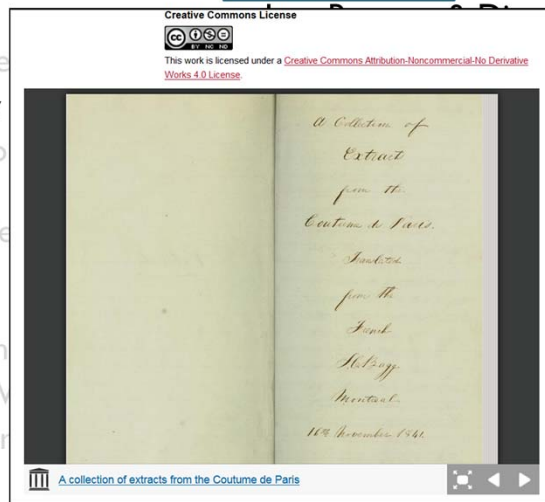
- Faculty Scholarship
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- Ontario Law Reform Commission
- Special Exhibits
- Statutes

The Digital Text collection will become a collection of digitized texts from the Osgoode library's Balfour Halévy Special Collections in the Canada Law Book Rare Book Room. Although we have grand ambitions for this particular collection we have only managed to scan Stanley Clark Bagg's "Collection of Extracts from the Coutume de Paris: Translated from the French" published in 1866.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
- Journals
- Faculty Research
- Law Library
- News, History Archives
- Research Center Programs
- Theses and Dissertations
- Videos and Webcasts
- Image Gallery

• Digital Texts



We are also committed to uploading our digital texts to the Internet Archive. There is actually a nice link between the Internet Archive and Digital Commons including their flipbook reader can be embedded into Osgoode Digital Commons. An example of the reader is shown on this slide.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
 - Journals
 - Faculty Research Papers
 - **Law Library**
 - News, History and Archives
 - Research Centres Programs
 - Theses and Dissertations
 - Videos and Webinars
 - Image Galleries
- Digital Texts
 - **Law Reports & Digests**
- [Chambers Reports, 1846-1852 \(2 v\)](#)
 - [Chancery Chambers Reports, 1853-1872 \(4 v\)](#)
 - [Clarke & Scully's Drainage Cases, 1889-1903 \(2 v\)](#)
 - [Draper Upper Canada King's Bench Reports, 1829-1831 \(1 v\)](#)
 - [Grant's Upper Canada Chancery Cases, 1849-1882 \(29 v, 1861-1883\)](#)
 - [Hodgins' Election Cases, 1871-1878 \(1 v\)](#)
 - [Ontario Appeal Reports, 1878-1900 \(27 v\)](#)
 - [Ontario Election Cases, 1884-1900 \(2 v\)](#)
 - [Ontario Practice Reports, 1848-1900 \(19 v\)](#)
 - [Taylor Upper Canada King's Bench Reports, 1824-1828 \(1 v\)](#)
 - [The Ontario Law Reports, 1901-1931 \(66 v\)](#)
 - [The Ontario Reports, 1882-1900 \(32 v\)](#)
 - [Upper Canada Error & Appeal Reports, 1846-1866 \(3 v\)](#)
 - [Upper Canada Queen's Bench Reports, New Series, 1842 -1882 \(46 v\)](#)
 - [Upper Canada Queen's Bench Reports, Old Series, 1830-1842 \(6 v\)](#)

Despite the sparsity of our digital text collection we have been able to digitize a number of Law Reports and Digests which you can see listed here. These have also all been uploaded to the Internet Archive.



Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
- Journals
- Faculty Research Profiles
- **Law Library**
- News, History and Archives
- Research Centres & Programs
- Theses and Dissertations
- Videos and Webinars
- Image Galleries
- Digital Texts
- Law Reports & Digests
- **Librarian Publications & Presentations**
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There's also a place for the publications and presentations written by Osgoode librarians. And a copy of this presentation will be available there soon.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

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- Ontario Law Reform Commission
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We also have a complete collection of the 88 reports that were written over the 30 years that the Ontario Law Reform Commission was active. Many of these reports continue to play an important role in legislative history and the interpretation of the law in Ontario.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
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- Image Galleries
- Digital Texts
- Law Reports & Digests
- Librarian Publications & Presentations
- Ontario Law Reform Commission
- Special Exhibits
- Statutes

And finally, we have two collections of statutes from the Province of Ontario: the first is the Annual Statutes, from colonial times to 1999 inclusive. These are the officially published versions as produced in the annual or sessional statute volumes for the years the legislation was passed; the second collection is a copy of the Revised Statutes of Ontario from 1914 up to and including the last published volume in 1990.



Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
- Journals
- Faculty Research Profiles
- Law Library
- **News, History and Archives**
- Research Centres & Programs
- Theses and Dissertations
- Videos and Webinars
- Image Galleries
- Alumni & Law School Publications
- Artists in Residence
- Course Materials and Syllabi
- Historical Photos
- News and Public Relations
- Osgoode@125
- Reports, Strategic Plans, and Policy Documents

The Osgoode News, History and Archives collection preserves an historical record of the institution and contains materials that were prepared by or were about the Osgoode Hall Law School. I won't go into great detail here but briefly, you will find collections for ...

Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
 - Journals
 - Faculty Research Profiles
 - Law Library
 - News, History and Archives
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... alumni and Osgoode publications,

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special programs and course related materials,

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- Course Materials and Syllabi
- **Historical Photos**
- News and Public Relations
- Osgoode@125
- Reports, Strategic Plans, and Policy Documents

historical photographs,

Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
- Journals
- Faculty Research Profiles
- Law Librarian's History and Archives
- Research
- News, History and Archives
- Vices and Webinars
- Image Galleries
- Alumni & Law School Publications
- Artists in Residence
- Course Materials and Syllabi
- Historical Photos
- News and Public Relations
- Osgoode@125
- Reports, Strategic Plans, and Policy Documents



... and news related stories and other documents about Osgoode.



Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
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- Faculty Research Profiles
- Law Library
- News, History and Archives
- **Research Centres & Programs**
- Theses and Dissertations
- Videos and Webinars
- Image Galleries
- Hennick Centre for Law and Business
- Jack and Mae Nathanson Centre on Transnational Human Rights, Crime and Security
- York Centre for Public Policy & Law

We have also preserved and archived the work of the research centres that are active at Osgoode.



The work of the 'Nathanson Centre on Transnational Human Rights, Crime and Security' for example has recently been captured, organized, and archived on Osgoode Digital Commons.



Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

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- LLM Theses
- PhD Dissertations

We have a good collection of Osgoode Masters theses and PhD dissertations which are available starting from 2012. We have plans to expand this coverage in the future.



Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
- Journals
- Faculty Research Profiles
- Law Library
- News, History and Archives
- Research Centres & Programs
- Theses and Dissertations
- **Videos and Webinars**
- Image Galleries
- Faculty & Research
- Osgoode Events
- Special Lectures and Symposia
- Student Life

In the Videos and Webinars collection we have captured most, if not all, of the video also available on the Osgoode Hall Law School YouTube channel. Here you'll find recordings of special lectures, events that have taken place at Osgoode and some examples of student life at Osgoode.

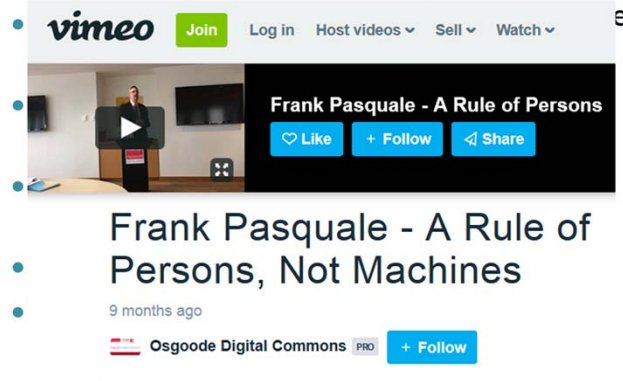
Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- All Special Lecture and Symposia Videos
- Canada's Rights Revolution: A Critical and Comparative Symposium on the Canadian Charter
- Creating Opportunities Summit
- David Lepofsky Lectures on Advocating for Disability Rights
- Davies Business Law Lecture
- Ethical Lawyering in a Global Community
- In the Public Interest: The Law and Ethics of Investigative Journalism
- IP Osgoode Speaks Series
- James L. Lewtas Lecture
- Legal Philosophy Between State and Transnationalism Seminar Series
- Ontario Legal Philosophy Partnership (OLPP) Seminar
- 'Or' 'Emet Lectures
- Osgoode Colloquium on Law, Religion & Social Thought
- Pierre Genest Memorial Lecture
- Public & Private Securities Enforcement: Securing Recovery for Harmed Investors
- Sparking Innovation With Students: Examining the Student Role from Invention to Commercialization
- UNPACK SODRAC Symposium
- User Generated Content Under Canadian Copyright Law

The largest collection in this group is by far the video recordings of the various Special Lecture and Symposia that are presented periodically at Osgoode.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
- Journals
- Faculty Research Profiles
- Law Library
- Faculty & Research
- Osgoode Events
- Special Lectures and Symposia



We archive all of these videos on Vimeo and direct users from the Osgoode Digital Commons to our Vimeo account.



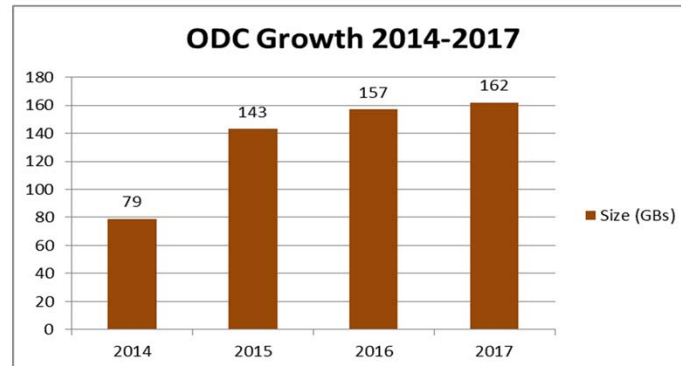
Osgoode Digital Commons: Collections

- Faculty Scholarship
- Journals
- Faculty Research Profiles
- Law Library
- News, History and Archives
- Research Centres & Programs
- Theses and Dissertations
- Videos and Webinars
- Image Galleries
- All Images
- Book Plates from the Balfour Halévy Special Collections
- First Day Class Portraits
- Graduating Class Composites
- Osgoode@125 Historical Photo Exhibit
- Osgoode Catalysts
- Remembrance Day

And finally we have a wonderful collection of photographs and images related to Osgoode which are grouped here together in one place for easy browsing and discovery.

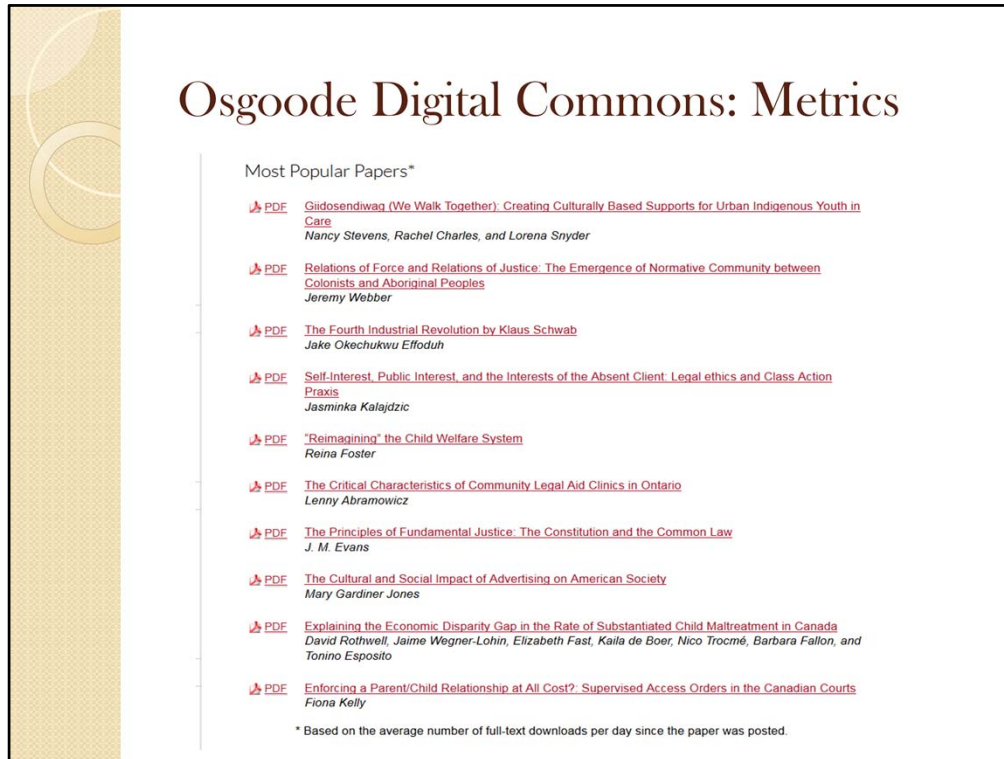
Osgoode Digital Commons: Growth

- Total number of papers: **16,927**
- Downloads in the past year: **566,054**
- Total downloads: **1,744,110**



To date we've uploaded a total of 16,927 digital resources. We've had over half a million full-text downloads during the past year and we've reached over one million, seven hundred thousand full-text downloads since we launched Osgoode Digital Commons in 2014.

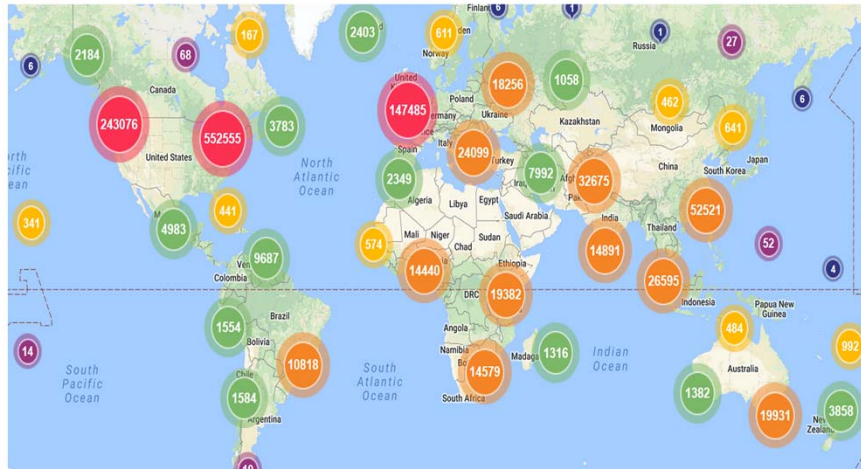
The rate of growth for Osgoode Digital Commons has flattened out considerably since the rapid growth we saw as we initially populated the repository. We are now adding an average of about 5-10 GBs of new digital materials annually.



As mentioned at the top of this presentation Digital Commons provides some great metrics which can be used to evaluate the research impact of Osgoode's scholarship.

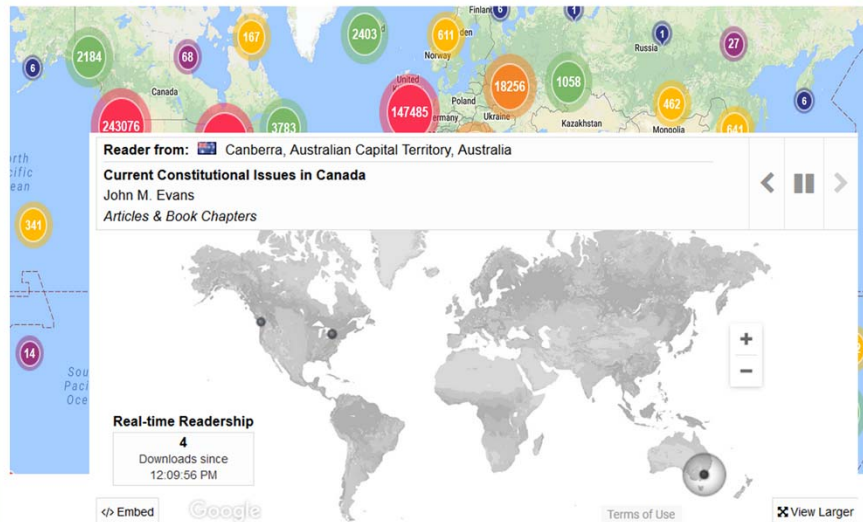
Here for example are the current top 10 most downloaded papers in Osgoode Digital Commons as a whole.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Metrics

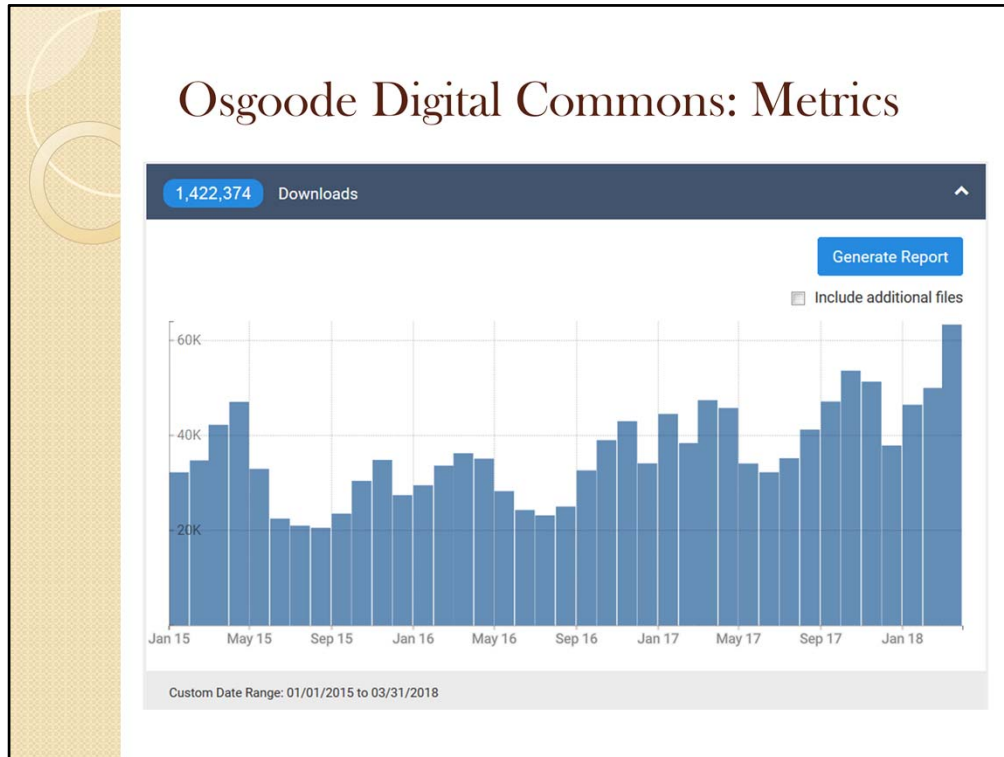


Here's a somewhat squished representation of the global reach that the scholarship in Osgoode Digital Commons has had to date. This gives a good sense of where Osgoode scholarship has manifested worldwide. The numbers in red here represent the highest number of downloads primarily found in North America and western Europe. The orange and green circles are the next highest levels and show interests further abroad including Africa, Asia, Australia and South America.

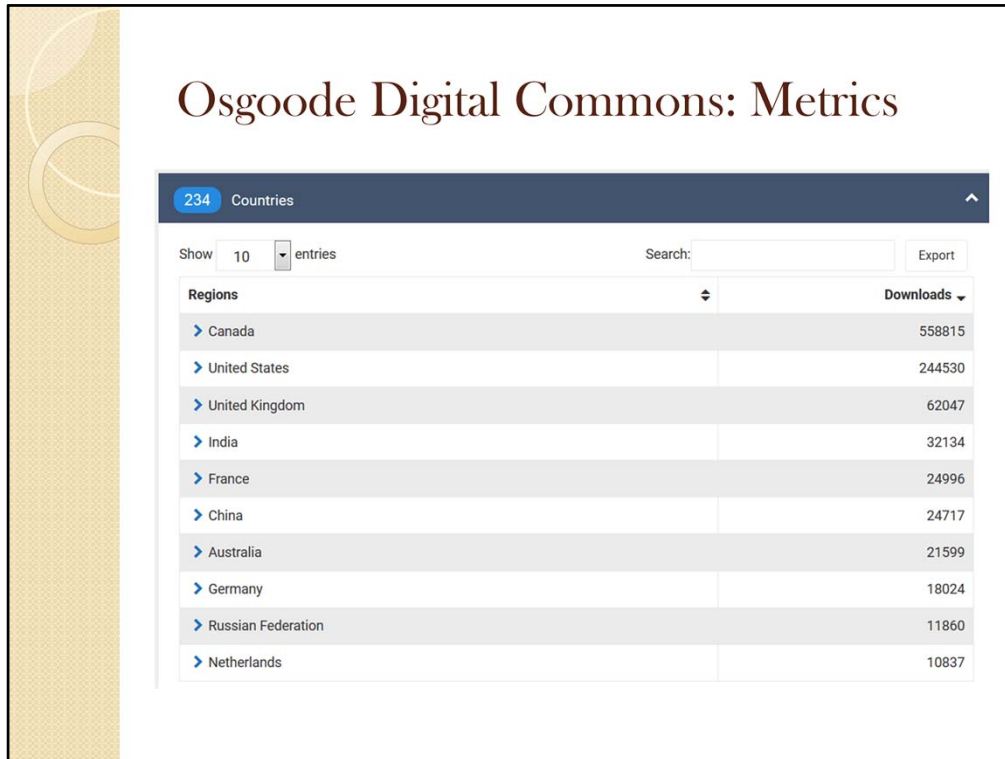
Osgoode Digital Commons: Metrics



Digital Commons also provides a real-time map that pinpoints reader activity globally showing where each paper is downloaded as the download occurs. It's a nice feature and actually pretty fascinating to watch.

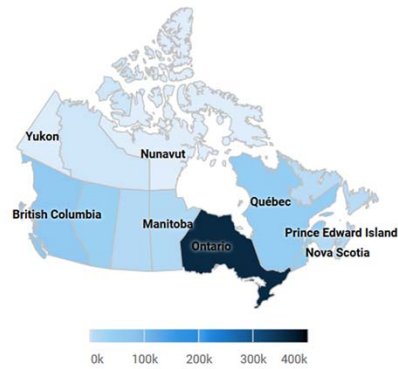


More traditional statistical reports are also available. Here is a bar graph showing the full-text downloads that have happened from January 1, 2015 until the end of last month.



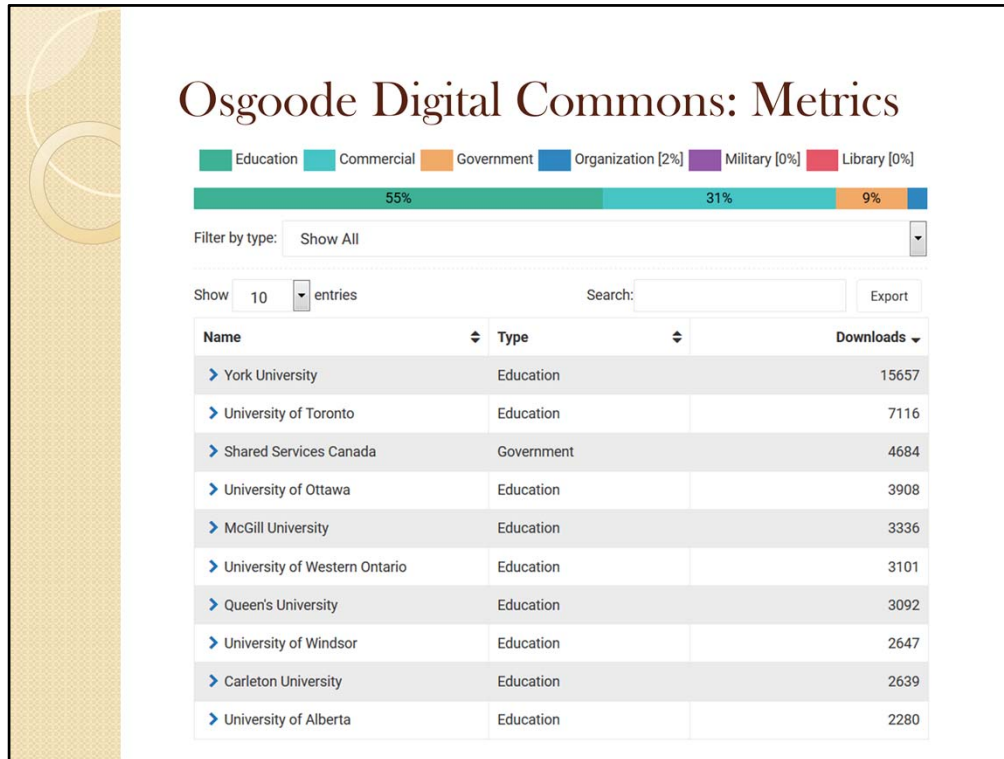
All in all, we've reached over 200 countries worldwide. These are the top 10 countries reached ordered by the number of downloads.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Metrics



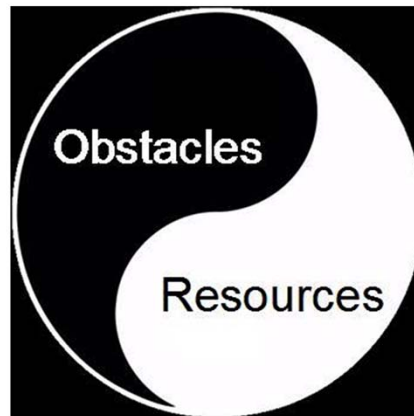
| Regions | Downloads |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| > Ontario | 360597 |
| > British Columbia | 64115 |
| > Quebec | 46255 |
| > Alberta | 35921 |
| > Manitoba | 12590 |
| > Nova Scotia | 12535 |
| > Saskatchewan | 10960 |
| > New Brunswick | 8286 |
| > Newfoundland and Labrador | 4269 |
| > Prince Edward Island | 1765 |

You can also dig down to get specific distribution data by country. Here for example are the statistics for Canada. It's not too surprising to see that the bulk of the downloads have been from Ontario and it's interesting to compare how things have been distributed nationally.



It's also interesting to learn about the types of organizations that have been accessing Osgoode Digital Commons. And again, it's no surprise to see that the top 10 have been educational institutions.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Challenges



As we continue curating and archiving the institutional output of the Osgoode Hall Law School there are a couple of potential challenges that we'll need to consider and prepare for as we go forward.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Challenges

Elsevier acquires bepress, August 2017

*“We’ve had them on our radar for a long time.”—
Olivier Dumon, Elsevier**

* <https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2017/08/02/elsevier-acquires-bepress/>

First of all, and possibly the elephant in the room for some of you, it came as quite a shock to learn that Elsevier had acquired Bepress in August of 2017. There was absolutely no indication that anything like this was in the works. Although Roger Schonfeld writing in The Scholarly Kitchen quotes Olivier Dumon, Elsevier’s Managing Director for Research Products, as saying that “We’ve had them on our radar for a long time.”

Bepress’s Managing Director, Jean-Gabriel Bankier was quick to allay community fears writing in an email ...

Osgoode Digital Commons: Challenges

Elsevier acquires bepress, August 2017

*“We’ve had them on our radar for a long time.”—
Olivier Dumon, Elsevier**

*“I want to be clear that bepress will continue to offer
the same support and the same stable pricing
model. Also, your content is yours. Your license makes
that explicit.”— Jean-Gabriel Bankier, bepress*

* <https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2017/08/02/elsevier-acquires-bepress/>

... “I want to be clear that bepress will continue to offer the same support and the same stable pricing model. Also, your content is yours. Your license makes that explicit.” Comforting I suppose. And really nothing has changed much in practical terms. We still have a great platform and the same great customer support.

But we have to think about the possibility that we may eventually have to migrate to something else.

But it will be tough to find something that comes close to what we get already rolled into Digital Commons. Fortunately we are not alone with this problem. At a Law Repositories meeting I attended in Williamsburg, Virginia, in 2015, Digital Commons was the predominant platform of participants present.

Osgoode Digital Commons: Challenges



<http://lawarxiv.info/>

One thing that looks promising is LawArxiv.

This is an open access repository for legal scholarship, which is “maintained and owned by legal scholars and law librarians for the benefit of the legal community.”



It's a collaborative venture featuring the Legal Information Preservation Alliance (LIPA), the Mid-American Law Libraries Consortium (MALLCO), NELLCO Library Consortium Inc. and the Cornell Law Library.

Definitely something to watch and watch closely ...

Osgoode Digital Commons: Challenges

Staffing

Digital Services and Material Processing Assistant



The other ongoing challenge for us has been staffing. Since 2014 we've cycled through five part-time student assistants. Fortunately for us we've been very lucky and attracted some stellar applicants, folks with incredible skills and initiative. But we have always needed a full-time person to contribute to better overall consistency of our efforts and enable possibilities for long-term planning that will allow us to develop and enhance our digital repository.

And I'm happy to report that after many months of back-and-forth negotiation we have finally secured a new "Digital Services and Material Processing Assistant" position. This full-time position will allow us to provide additional enhancements such as subject analysis for everything in the repository, something which we have been difficult to accomplish outside of the day-to-day tasks involved with repository maintenance.



Osgoode Digital Commons: Contributors

- Louis Mirando
- Osgoode faculty
- bepress Support
- Student assistants
 - Daniel Demanuele (2014-2015)
 - Zeineb Yousif (2015-2016)
 - Lisa Levesque (2016)
 - Devin Dandar (2016)
 - Teodora Naydenova (2017-)

I want to end by thanking some of the many people who have contributed to the success of the Osgoode Digital Commons.

First, many thanks to Louis Mirando for his leadership and for setting us along this path many years ago. And many thanks to the Osgoode faculty for their scholarship and their willingness to support this venture. Thanks to bepress customer support who have provided tutorials, webinars and wonderful consultants who are always there to answer our questions and find solutions for us.

And last, but certainly not least, our amazing student assistants who have worked hard and brought so much to the digital table to help us shape and develop this wonderful resource. We couldn't have done it without you!



That's it for me.

Thanks again to the CALL Webinar Sub-Committee for organization and hosting this webinar.

I'll be happy to try and answer any questions you may have at the end of the webinar. Or contact me anytime at either of these email addresses.